

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 ALGIER 01596 161411Z

40

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W

----- 075985

P R 161325Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2735

INFO AMCONSUL CASABLANCA

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

S E C R E T ALGIERS 1596

EXDIS

DEPT PLS PASS TO SECRETARY'S PARTY

DEPT PLS PASS TO DEPSECDEF CLEMENTS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PBOR, MO, SS, SP, AG, US

SUBJECT: SPANISH SAHARA: US DIPLOMATIC ROLE

REF: (A) SECTO 60041; (B) RABAT 3412

1. WE ARE NOT PERSUADED THAT ATTITUDES OF PARTIES TO SAHARA  
DISPUTE ARE CLEAR ENOUGH TO PROVIDE BASIS FOR EXPECTATION  
THAT US INTERMEDIARY ROLE CAN FURTHER RESOLUTION OF DISPUTE  
WITHOUT UNNECESSARILY MAKING US TARGET FOR CRITICISM.

2. MOROCCAN INSISTENCE ON BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS COULD BE  
VIEWED AS REFLECTING LACK OF CONFIDENCE IN EXTENT TO WHICH  
THEY HAVE ALGERIANS PINNED DOWN BILATERALLY OR HAVE SOLID  
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 ALGIER 01596 161411Z

JOINT UNDERSTANIDNG WITH MAURITANIA. IT IS NOT CLEAR, FOR

ONE THING, THAT GOA HAS ACTUALLY ABANDONED ITS ORIGINAL "AUTODETERMINATION" FORMULA AS THE ONLY ACCEPTABLE SOLUTION FOR THE SPANISH SAHARA PROBLEM. WE NOT CONFIDENT THAT WE CAN PROCEED TO EXCLUDE GOA FROM OUR DIPLOMATIC ACTIVITIES SIMPLY BECAUSE OF MOROCCAN/ALGERIAN RAPPROCHEMENT BASED ON GOA AND GOM "PUBLIC WORD." THESE WORDS WARM BUT STILL IMPRECISE AND WE MUST KEEP IN MIND ALGERIANS ALREADY BLAMING US FOR MOROCCAN ACTIVISM. WE ALSO HAVE TO QUESTION WISDOM OF US ACTING ON BASIS OF "LETTING MOROCCANS CARRY BALL WITH MAURITANIANS." WE LEAVE TO EMBASSY MADRID QUESTION OF SPANISH MOTIVES, WHICH CONFUSE US TOO, BUT WE HAVE TO SUSPECT SPANISH ACTIONS REFLECT MORE THAN PRIDE.

3. IF EVERYTHING IS SO CLEAR-CUT THAT WE COULD GET PROCEEDINGS STARTED EARLY AND THEN WITHDRAW, THEN WONDER WHY WE ARE NEEDED. IF THINGS ARE NOT THIS CELAR-CUT, AND WE DO NOT BELIEVE THEY ARE, WE WOULD PREFER AVOID GETTING CAUGHT BETWEEN DOG AND LAMPOST.PARKER

NOTE BY OCT: NOT PASSED.

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ARBITRATION, DISPUTES, TERRITORIAL CLAIMS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 16 JUL 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** CunninFX  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975ALGIER01596  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750245-0934  
**From:** ALGIERS  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750748/aaaabrbd.tel  
**Line Count:** 80  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION SS  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Reference:** 75 SECTO 60041, 75 RABAT 3412  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** CunninFX  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 20 MAY 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <20 MAY 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <02 OCT 2003 by CunninFX>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SPANISH SAHARA: US DIPLOMATIC ROLE  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PBOR, MO, SS, SP, AG, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006